

SECURITY INFORMATION

19 February 1952

ITEM 1

Plan for Conducting Psychological Operations During
General Hostilities

Summary: This item was approved by the Board at its 15 November meeting, except that the Secretary of Defense requested a final review by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The paper is in its final form, with revisions made by the Joint Chiefs of Staff underlined in red. The principal changes occurred in paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, and 11 of Section VI, and a safeguard paragraph was added to Section VII.

The principal Joint Chiefs of Staff change occurred in paragraph 4 of Section VI, and greatly simplified it by deletion of previous existing jurisdictional exceptions. It is to be noted that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have reinserted the word, "guidance," instead of "instructions," in paragraph 11-a. It is believed this change is technically correct to be consistent with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the paper and the 4th of April 1951 directive of the President. In two places the Joint Chiefs of Staff have substituted, "U. S. military Commander designated by the Joint Chiefs of Staff," in lieu of the previous language, "senior U. S. military officer."

The Staff has reviewed the revisions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to this paper and finds them acceptable.

Recommendation: That you approve this paper as it is now finally drafted.

19 February 1952

ITEM 2

Psychological Operations Plan for the Reduction of
[REDACTED]

Summary: This report is submitted by Panel C in response to previous directives of the Board to develop a plan for the reduction
[REDACTED]

There are a few editorial corrections to be made which have been brought to the attention of the Psychological Strategy Board Staff. There are no changes in substance, and the plan is considered acceptable by the Staff.

Recommendation: That you approve the plan as drafted.

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Approved For Release 2001/11/22 : CIA-RDP80-01065A000500100062-4

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ITEM 3

Memorandum on Public Statements with Respect to
Certain American Weapons

Summary: This report is submitted by Panel D in response to a directive of the Board. It submits the report in the form of a memorandum for the Executive Secretary of the National Security Council forwarding a letter, for the President's signature, to the departmental heads with a memorandum enclosure setting forth the basic cautions with respect to public statements on certain American weapons.

Tab C has been reviewed by the Staff and appears to lack a certain degree of definitiveness—affirmative guidance. In its present form it appears to be an "empty capsule." The difficulty in enumerating a series of "do's" and "don'ts" is understandable, and the Panel reports its exclusion of such a list. Nonetheless, a more affirmative definitive tone could be set forth in Tab C which could be basically considered guidance. If, however, the Board believes that this paper will serve as a restraining instrument upon our officials with respect to public utterances on this subject, then, the intent, rather than the guidance purposes for which it is drafted, may well be served.

The Panel concludes that existing procedures are adequate and new clearance machinery is not required; however, the committee is to remain subject to the call of the chairman for periodic revision of this guidance.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the intent of this item is to place restraint upon statements by public officials with respect to this subject, rather than furnish covering guidance, it is recommended that you approve the memorandum to the Executive Secretary with its enclosures.

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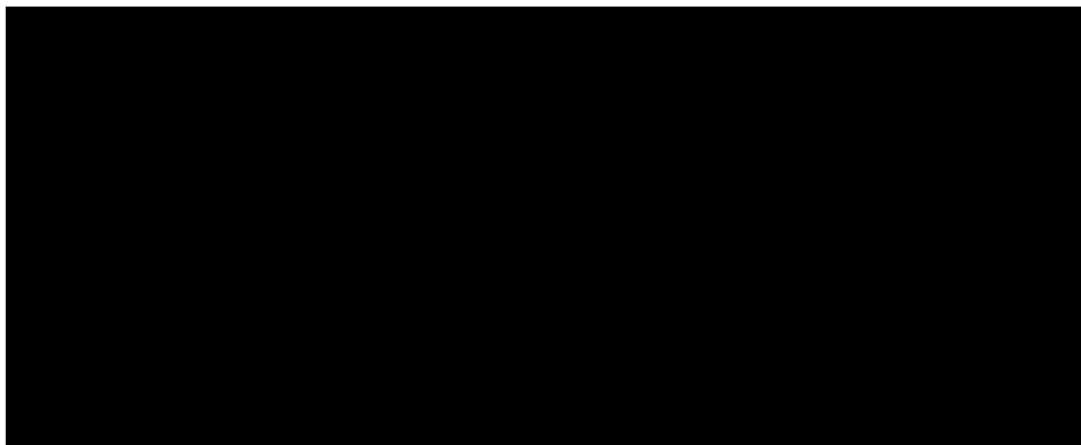
ITEM 4

Psychological Operations Plan for the Reduction of

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Summary: The Board is to consider the views of the State Department with respect to this plan, as set forth in the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Psychological Strategy Board (page 3 of the first document in this agenda book). Mr. Harriman has addressed himself to the first paragraph of the observations of the State member by expressing his concern that the use of the word, "permissive," might be misconstrued. The Director of the Psychological Strategy Board has, therefore, submitted the following resolution for Board approval:

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Recommendation: That you approve the resolution suggested by the Director.

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Support for the Nation

19 February 1952

ITEM 5

Progress Reports

Summary: The Psychological Strategy Board Staff will present brief verbal progress reports on the status of certain previously approved plans, as listed on the agenda.

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ITEM 6

(Post-Agenda Item)

The Strategic Significance of Involuntary POW
Repatriation in Korea

Summary: The Psychological Strategy Board Staff has become increasingly concerned with the prospect that the United States will not stand firm on the issue of opposing forced repatriation of prisoners of war in Korea, particularly if this remains the sole determinant of whether a truce is to be negotiated.

While we still retain the freedom of initiative and action, it is believed feasible, as recommended in the 22 October 1951 study of the Psychological Strategy Board, to parole certain POW's now.

Inasmuch as there are serious implications to involuntary repatriation of POW's which would have an adverse impact on all future U. S. psychological strategy, the Director of the Psychological Strategy Board believes the Board should become seized with the problem, and the item is therefore included for post-agenda discussion.

Recommendation: That the Psychological Strategy Board recommend that consideration of this problem be formalized at the National Security Council level.

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